

Citizens Focus Group Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2016

In Attendance

Marc Payne
Ray Torres
Ronnie Viss
Sandor Vegh
Timothy McGinnis
David Morris – Liaison
James Pierce Jr. – Liaison

Unavailable

Chris Mulvey - Work
Marcie Lowery - Medical

Noel Watson opened the meeting with a presentation regarding the Solid Waste Department (presentation attached). Following the presentation, Mr. Vegh had a question/concern regarding the placement of brush in conjunction with mailboxes/driveways. Noel, as well as Andrea, explained the reasoning behind this policy. He better understood after the discussion.

Silvia Rhoads gave a presentation over recycling (presentation attached). Following this presentation, Silvia also presented the infomercial they made with CCHS. Following the presentation, Mr. Payne asked a question concerning paper being recycled (bagging shreds). Silvia answered and explained the reasoning behind it. Mr. Vegh had a question in regards to blue versus green recycle bins and when all would have these available to them. Silvia answered his question and explained the process. Mr. Torres asked if Solid Waste had considered placing large recycle bins around town like Ft. Hood currently does. Silvia and Andrea both explained the reasoning behind why we do not offer that. Mr. Pierce presented a question about bottles and lids and what was the reasoning behind this. Silvia explained the policy and the reasoning behind it. Andrea also brought up an alternative to those who still wish to recycle the lids. Mr. Pierce also had a question concerning cardboard boxes and the policy on wet/damaged cardboard. Silvia answered in detail the reasoning behind not accepting damaged cardboard but did make it known that we can accept pizza boxes now, grease stain or not. Mr. Pierce also asked about the policy on recycling batteries. Andrea explained batteries need to be disposed of unless they are rechargeable, rechargeable batteries can be recycled. Mr. Payne went back to the cardboard question and asked for further explanation on “wet” cardboard. Andrea explained in even greater detail what can and cannot be accepted in regards to wet and previously wet but now dry cardboard.

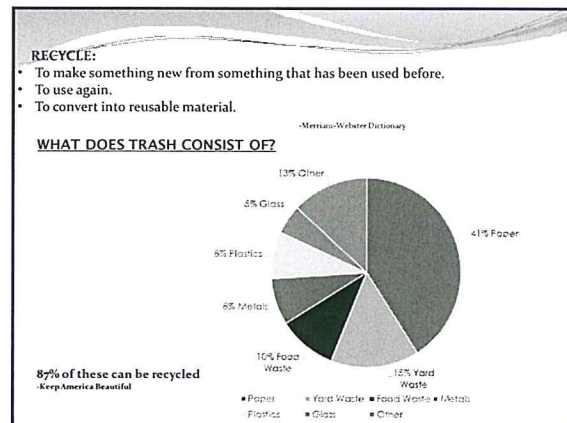
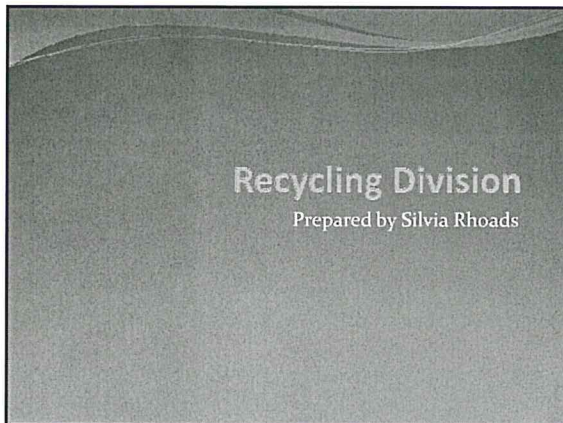
Andrea reported to the focus group that we are in negotiation with Ft. hood to bring our recycle to their facility instead of Taylor, TX. This would in return save the department money. Mr. McGinnis then asked a question concerning if profits are made, would they go directly to the department or city as a whole. Andrea explained the profits would go to the department.

Mr. Pierce had a question concerning the containers and the replacement of them. Noel explained that they carry a 12 year warranty so all citizens have to do is contact them and it can be replaced.

Mr. Viss explained that he feels the City of Copperas Cove has one of the best recycling programs and no other place is doing it as successful as Copperas Cove.

Silvia reminded everyone about the spring clean up happening 4/23/16.

At this time, Noel gave everyone a tour of the facilities and the meeting was closed.



RECYCLING IN COPPERAS COVE

Past...

- A pickup/trailer were used to collect newspaper, plastic, aluminum cans and cardboard.
- Unloading was completed by hand and was very labor intensive and time consuming.
- Participation rate was at approximately 19%.

RECYCLING IN COPPERAS COVE

Then...

- A new trough loader helps complete the route more efficiently.
- Unloading is completed mechanically.
- Participation rate increased to 25%.

RECYCLING IN COPPERAS COVE

Unloading

Past...

Then...

RECYCLING IN COPPERAS COVE

Past...

- Cardboard
- Plastics (1 & 2)
- Aluminum Cans
- Newspapers

Added In 2006...

- Office Paper
- Junk Mail
- Steel Cans

Added In 2011...

- Magazines
- Phone books

Recyclables are sorted into blue 22-gallon recycle bins

Present...

Recyclables are placed loosely into green 96-gallon container

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING IMPLEMENTATION

Area 8 - 1,459 homes, implementation completed in 2014
 Area 1 - 1,936 homes implementation completed in 2015
 Area 3 - 2,410 homes implementation completed in 2015
 Area 7 - 1,453 homes implementation completed in 2015
 Area 6 - 640 homes implemented in March 2016.

- Average overall participation rate in Single Stream system 46%.
- Residents are given a six (6) week grace period and educated about contamination in the single stream recycling container.
- Following grace period, a \$16 fine applies for contaminated containers which must be dumped as trash.

EXAMPLES OF CONTAMINATED RECYCLE LOADS



Main contaminants are glass, plastic bags and plastic or bubble wrap. Also found are Styrofoam peanuts, plastics not containing the recycle symbol, food, wood, grass clippings and more.



Recycle containers seen here used as trash cans must be dumped as trash. If a tainted load is added to the recycle load, it contaminates the rest of the recyclables.

DOWNLOADING SINGLE STREAM RECYCLABLES



Following collection, recyclables are downloaded and transferred into a trailer to be taken to Wilco Recycling.

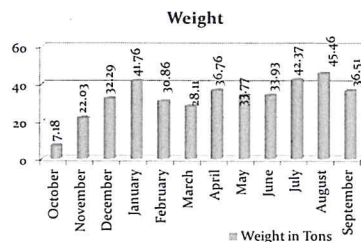


SINGLE STREAM LOADS AT WILCO RECYCLING

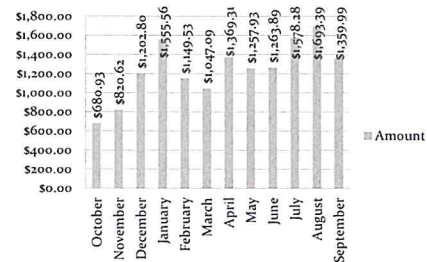


Wilco Recycling commends The City of Copperas Cove for keeping contamination to a minimum. It is due to staff care and diligence while collecting recyclables.

FY 2014-2015 SINGLE STREAM RECYCLE COLLECTION



FY 2014-2015 DIVERSION SAVINGS



SUCCESS & PROGRESS

➤ Solid Waste receives numerous calls each week from residents wishing to participate in the Single Stream Recycling program and asking when they will be receiving their green single stream containers.

➤ Residents are extremely pleased that there is no cost associated with Single Stream Recycling.

➤ Participation rates hover around 46% on average between all areas in the single stream recycling program.

➤ In FY 2014-2015 191 tons more recyclables were collected than the fiscal year before. This year, we are on track to collect more than 1 million pounds of recyclables.

➤ The last batch of approximately 4,000 containers will be ordered soon. Solid Waste Staff assembles and delivers recycle containers after completing their daily routes and duties.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

Approximate home count per area is as follows:

Area	Home Count	Number of Homes Implemented
1	1,936	1,936
2	1,232	(to be completed by summer)
3	2,410	2,410
4	1,351	(100 containers on hand leaving 1,251 to be ordered for completion this summer)
5	1,131	(to be completed by summer)
6	1,032	To date, 640 containers delivered
7	1,453	1,453
8	1,459	1,459

An additional 4,000 containers to be purchased will complete the SSR implementation city-wide. Funds are included in FY 2016 operating budget.

Welcome to the City of Copperas Cove Solid Waste Department



Where Does Our Trash Go?

- Our Solid Waste trucks collect trash from the curb.
- Then the trucks dispose of the trash in our Transfer Station.
- From there, the trash is loaded into trailers & transported to the Temple Landfill.
- The city pays for the hauling & disposal of our trash.



This is How We Operate-

Residential Collection

- The city is divided into eight collection areas.
- Each collection day, two areas have their trash collected.
- On any given collection day, there are between 3-4 trash collection trucks in each of the areas.
- Per ordinance, all solid waste piles must be placed on the address side of the curb.
- We ask residents to separate their brush, bulk, trash & recycle piles by at least four feet so our trucks can get in and out safely.



Commercial Collection

- Monday through Friday, two front loading commercial trucks, and a side loader collect all of the city's businesses and multi-family dwellings.
- We service business dumpsters anywhere from once to five times a week.



Brush Collection

- Brush, which consists of tree limbs and biodegradable Kraft bags, is collected twice per month in each area.
- The brush driver operates on a four 10-hour day work week.



Bulk/Junk Collection

- One bulk driver covers each area of the city.
- The driver operates on a four 10-hour day work week.



Recycle Collection

- Three recycle drivers service the entire city plus businesses and all schools.
- Recycle drivers work five 8 hour days.



Your Solid Waste Department Offers Several Services **FREE OF CHARGE!**...



Free Brush Collection

- We collect up to 8 cubic yards (5'x4'x11') of brush *free*, plus we'll take *unlimited* amounts of Kraft bags filled with leaves & twigs, twice monthly.
- Additionally, residents with an active solid waste account can drive in two *FREE* pickup truck loads of brush per year.



Free Bulk Collection

- Twice a month, up to 3 cubic yards (3'x3'x10') of bulk/junk are collected from your curbs *free of charge*.
- Each additional cubic yard of either brush or bulk is \$6.00.



Complimentary Recycle Collection

- We pick up recycling twice per month as a *free service to you*.
- The city is fast at work delivering 96-gallon green Single Stream recycle containers to all the residences in Copperas Cove.
- The Single Stream Program will make it easy for folks to recycle **AND** the containers & service are *free of charge*.



The Transfer Station

- We are a type V-TS, which means we are a non-processing facility and ship collected solid waste out.
- All solid waste is trucked to the Temple landfill.
- All collected recycled items, metal and tires are sent to processing facilities.
- The transfer station is not permitted to accept hazardous or toxic materials.
- Folks **DUMP AT THEIR OWN RISK**.



The Dumping Procedure

- Customers drive on the scale, where the scale operator prints a gross weight ticket and gives a green light for the customer to proceed.
- Traffic flows in a counterclockwise direction, and incoming traffic has the right of way.
- All loads are screened for violations.
- Customers come back over the scale to weigh out, and a charge is calculated based on the net weight dumped.



Tipping Floor Procedure 1

- Light duty vehicles without trailers proceed to the north side of the building, and back up to dump their trash on the tipping floor.
- This procedure was implemented in 2013 and has been successful in lessening congestion.



Tipping Floor Procedure 2

- Larger dump trucks and vehicles with trailers are directed onto the tipping floor itself.
- Solid Waste vehicles have priority to keep our collection routes on schedule.
- Only when the transfer station is empty of customers is the loader operated to push trash into trailers to be hauled to the landfill in Temple.



Disposal Fees

- Minimum charge (up to 240lbs.) - \$6.50 +tax
- Per ton - \$65.00 +tax
- Vehicle Weight Tickets - \$8.00
- Surcharge for Uncovered Loads- \$12.00



Tire Disposal Fees

- Customers are directed to a 30-yard roll-off container to dispose of used tires.
- Tires on rims are not accepted.
- Passenger/light truck tires, less than 17.5"
 - \$3.00
- Truck tires, greater than or equal to 17.5"
 - \$7.00



Comal Transportation

- The transfer station uses 48 ft. trailers from Comal Transportation for the hauling of solid waste to the Temple Landfill.
 - Recycle materials are taken to Wilco Recycling Center in Taylor, TX.
 - The transfer station averages filling 5 to 6 trailers daily.
- Rates:**
- Copperas Cove Transfer Station to Temple Landfill - \$245.00/load
 - Copperas Cove Transfer Station Recycle to Williamson County Landfill - \$335.00/load



Temple Landfill

•All trash collected at the Copperas Cove Transfer Station is hauled to the Temple Landfill.

•The Copperas Cove Transfer Station collects on average 250,000 to 300,000 pounds of trash daily. (125 to 150 tons daily)

•The Copperas Cove Transfer Station averages 20 to 22 tons per trailer.

•W.M.'s rate per ton \$27.45



Compost

•The transfer station orders compost from WCID1 in Killeen, TX.

•While Copperas Cove no longer operates its own compost facility, all brush collected is used by WCID1 to make compost. Copperas Cove sells approximately 1,500-2,000 yards of compost annually.

•Transfer station employees load compost into customers' trucks, trailers, and Kraft bags too.

Compost per cubic yard \$8.50

+tax

Compost per bag \$2.25

+tax



Copperas Cove Landfill Inactive

The transfer station is responsible for maintaining the inactive landfill grounds and routes to the gas and water monitoring wells.

SCS Engineers has been contracted by the City of Copperas Cove to monitor the landfill gas probes, and the water wells in accordance with TCEQ rules and regulations.



DID YOU KNOW.....?



We're an Enterprise Fund

The Solid Waste Department operates as an enterprise fund, which means that our department is funded only by the revenue it generates.

QUESTIONS?

